

What is Claimed:

1                   1.     A method of enabling access to a data structure, said  
2     method comprising the steps of:

3                   designating e-mail addresses of users with respective sections of  
4     the data structure; and

5                   enabling access to the respective sections to users  
6     corresponding to the designated e-mail addresses.

1                   2.     The method of claim 1 wherein said step of designating  
2     includes entering the e-mail address into respective linking sections of the  
3     data structure, each of the linking sections being associated with a portion of  
4     the sections of the data structure.

1                   3.     The method of claim 1 wherein said step of designating  
2     includes associating the e-mail addresses to the respective sections of the  
3     data structure from another data structure.

1                   4.     The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:

2                   sending an e-mail to one of the users alerting the user of the  
3     user's ability to access the sections of the data structure associated with the  
4     user's e-mail address.

1                   5.     The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:

2                   creating, by one of the users, a password, to limit access to the  
3     sections of the data structure associated with the one user's e-mail address  
4     to the one user and other users having access rights to the sections of the  
5     data structure associated with the one user's e-mail address.

1                   6.     The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:

2                   reassigning, by one of the users, access rights to at least a  
3     portion of the sections of the data structure associated with the one user's  
4     e-mail address to another user.

1                   7.     The method of claim 1 wherein said step of enabling  
2     includes enabling at least one of editing the respective sections by users  
3     corresponding to the designated e-mail addresses, and viewing the respective  
4     sections by users corresponding to the designated e-mail addresses.

1                   8.     The method of claim 1 wherein said step of designating  
2     includes designating e-mail addresses of users with respective data cells of a  
3     spreadsheet included in the data structure.

1                   9.     The method of claim 1 wherein said step of designating  
2     includes selecting at least one section in the data structure and entering an  
3     e-mail address into a linking section of the data structure to link the at least  
4     one selected section with a user associated with the entered e-mail address,  
5     and said step of enabling includes enabling access to the at least one selected  
6     section to the user associated with the entered e-mail address.

1                   10.    The method of claim 1 wherein said step of selecting  
2     included in said step of designating includes selecting the at least one section  
3     as a data cell in a spreadsheet, and said step of enabling includes enabling  
4     access to the data cell to the user associated with the entered e-mail  
5     address.

1                   11.    The method of claim 10 wherein said step of selecting  
2     includes at least one of highlighting the data cell and clicking on the data cell.

- 1                   12. A method of accessing a data structure, said method  
2 comprising the steps of:
- 3                   receiving authorization, by a user, to access at least a portion of  
4 a plurality of sections included in the data structure, the authorization being  
5 provided by designating an e-mail address of the user with the portion of the  
6 sections in the data structure; and
- 7                   accessing the portion of the sections based on the received  
8 authorization.
- 1                   13. The method of claim 12 further comprising the step of:
- 2                   receiving, by the user, an e-mail alerting the user of the user's  
3 ability to access the portion of the sections.
- 1                   14. The method of claim 12 further comprising the step of:
- 2                   creating, by the user, a password, to limit access to the portion  
3 of the sections of the data structure to the user and other users having  
4 access rights to the portion of the sections of the data structure.
- 1                   15. The method of claim 12 further comprising the step of:
- 2                   reassigning, by the user, access rights to at least a portion of  
3 the portion of sections to another user.
- 1                   16. The method of claim 12 wherein said step of receiving  
2 includes at least one of receiving authorization to edit the portion of the  
3 sections, and receiving authorization to view the portion of the sections.
- 1                   17. The method of claim 12 wherein said step of accessing  
2 includes accessing the portion of the sections as data cells in a spreadsheet.

- 1                   18.    A computer readable carrier including computer program  
2   instructions which cause a computer to implement a method of enabling  
3   access to a data structure, said method comprising the steps of:
- 4                   designating e-mail addresses of users with respective sections of  
5   the data structure; and
- 6                   enabling access to the respective sections to users  
7   corresponding to the designated e-mail addresses.